

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /071 W
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R 231612Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5076
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY MADRID

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USEEC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, GW, GR, CY, TU
SUBJECT: EC POLITICAL COOPERATION

REF: STATE 300118

1. THE FOREIGN OFFICE HAS INFORMED US THAT THE
POLITICAL DIRECTORS WILL DEVOTE A HALF DAY DURING
THEIR FEBRUARY 7 TO 8 MEETING TO A DISCUSSION OF EC
POLITICAL COOPERATION WITH THE ACCESSION STATES.

2. THE GERMANS HAVE LONG BEEN CONCERNED OVER THE
DIFFICULTY OF HARMONIZING EC POLITICAL POLICIES WITH
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THE ACCESSION STATES. THE FOREIGN OFFICE DIRECTOR
FOR EUROPEAN POLITICAL COOPERATION (VON DER GABLENTZ)
TOLD US THAT BONN HAS BEEN IN THE FOREFRONT OF THOSE
SEEKING EARLY CONSIDERATION OF THIS PROBLEM. AT THE
FORTHCOMING MEETING, THE GERMANS WILL ADVOCATE
BRINGING THE ACCESSION STATES INTO THE POLITICAL
COOPERATION PROCESS AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE.

THIS WOULD TAKE THE FORM OF MORE EXTENSIVE POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS, BOTH BILATERALLY AND VIA THE PRESIDENCY, WITH THE PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS PRIOR TO THEIR ENTRY INTO THE EC.

3. THE FOREIGN OFFICE IS CONCERNED THAT IT WILL PROVE PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT TO RECONCILE GREEK POLICY ON CYPRUS WITH THAT OF THE EC-9. VON DER GABLENTZ TOLD US THAT A RECENT ANALYSIS BY THE FRG EMBASSY IN ATHENS HAD SHOWN THAT GREECE OFTEN SUPPORTED THIRD WORLD AND EASTERN EUROPEAN POSITIONS IN THE UN (IN OPPOSITION TO THE NINE) AS A MEANS OF GARNERING SUPPORT FOR ITS CYPRUS POLICY. THIS COULD POSE REAL PROBLEMS FOR THE EC-9 AND FRG OFFICIALS PLAN TO UNDERLINE TO PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS (WHO IS VISITING HERE JANUARY 31) THE NEED TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF COMMUNITY POSITIONS IN THE FUTURE. THIS EFFORT TO CONVINCE THE GREEKS TO PURSUE A EUROPEAN RATHER THAN A NATIONAL POLICY ON CYPRUS WOULD BE THE COUNTERPART TO EXPANDED POLITICAL COOPERATION WITH TURKEY (REFTEL). VON DER GABLENTZ CONFESSED THAT HE WAS NOT VERY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE PROSPECTS FOR SUCCESS.

STOESSEL

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